

<b>FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>	Application Number	09/677637
	Filing Date	October 3, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Japuntlich, Daniel A.
	Art Unit	3743
	Examiner Name	Aaron J. Lewis
Fax: 703-872-9306	Attorney Docket Number	48317US026
Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 23		
Date: April 7, 2005	Attorney for Applicant: Karl G. Hanson	

<b>ENCLOSURES</b> (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee Transmittal <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment Transmittal	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/Declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Technology Center (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR § 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
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<b>REMARKS:</b>		

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Patent

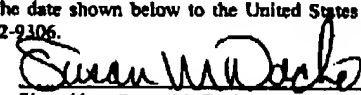
Case No.: 48317US026

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: JAPUNTICH, DANIEL A.  
Application No.: 09/677637 Group Art Unit: 3743  
Filed: October 3, 2000 Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis  
Title: FIBROUS FILTRATION FACE MASK HAVING A NEW  
UNIDIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION (37 CFR § 1.8(a))</b>	
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<input type="checkbox"/>	deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
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April 7, 2005 Date	 Signed by: Susan M. Dacko

Dear Sir:

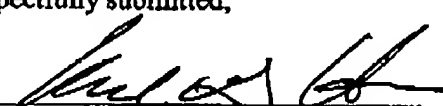
In accordance with the continuing duty of candor and good faith that is to be demonstrated before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, applicants submit copies of Answers in the civil litigation between the 3M Company and the 3M Innovative Properties Company ("3M") and Moldex-Metric, Inc. and the Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc. In both lawsuits, the defendants, Moldex-Metric, Inc. and the Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc. have filed Answers to the Complaints filed by 3M. In so doing, Moldex has filed counter-claims for a declaratory judgment of noninfringement and invalidity of U.S. Patent RE 37,974 to Bowers and U.S. Patent 6,843,248 to Japuntich et al. Moldex contends that each of these patents are invalid under 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103. Moldex also asserts that both patents are invalid for "containing a specification and claims which do not meet one or more of the requirements of 35 USC § 112, i.e., written description, enablement, best mode, and definiteness."

The Louis M. Gerson Company also asserts that the claims of the '974 patent are invalid under 35 USC § 101, 35 USC § 112, and/or § 251 and under 35 USC §§ 102 and 103.

Please contact applicants' attorney if the Examiner desires more information regarding the defenses raised by each of the defendants.

Respectfully submitted,

April 7, 2005  
Date

By:   
Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900  
Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

<b>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO (modified)</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)  Page 1 of 1	<b>Application Number</b>	<b>09/677637</b>
	<b>Filing Date</b>	<b>October 3, 2000</b>
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	<b>Japuntich, Daniel A.</b>
	<b>Art Unit</b>	<b>3743</b>
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	<b>Aaron J. Lewis</b>
	<b>Attorney Case Number</b>	<b>48317US026</b>

U.S. Patent Documents					
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date or Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Doc. Number-(Kind Code if Known)			
	A1	US-			
	A2	US-			
	A3	US-			
	A4	US-			
	A5	US-			
	A6	US-			
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	A8	US-			
	A9	US-			
	A10	US-			

Foreign Patent Documents							
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation (Check if yes)
		Ctry. Code	Number-(Kind Code if known)				
	B1						
	B2						
	B3						
	B4						
	B5						

OTHER DOCUMENTS			
Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	Translation (Check if yes)
	C1	Moldex's Answer to Second Amended Complaint and Counterclaims (3M Company and 3M Innovative Properties Company v. Moldex-Metric, Inc., Civil Action No. 03-5292 MJD/JGL, United States District Court for the District of Minnesota)	
	C2	Louis M. Gerson Company, Inc.'s Answer and Counterclaims to Plaintiffs' Amended Complaint (3M Innovative Properties Company and 3M Company v. Louis M. Gerson Co., Inc., Civil No. 05-CV-26 (MJD/JGL), United States District Court for the District of Minnesota)	
	C3		

<b>*Examiner:</b>	<b>Date Considered:</b>
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